

Amusing Story of a Murderer Who Refused to Be Released.
Monaco has no guillotine and no executioner and, indeed, no arrangements for dealing with criminals. It is the place to recall the amusing story told by Manpassant about a murderer who was tried, convicted and sentenced to death in Monte Carlo. The authorities asked France to loan the murderer and his little instruction, "M. le prisonnier." The French government consented to oblige for the sum of 11,000. The prince considered the price dear and so applied to the king of Italy. Italy offered to loan the murderer, all included, for £680. The price was found too dear. "The murderer was worth it," said the Monegasque authorities.

The sentence of death was commuted to one of life imprisonment. The murderer was in prison in Monaco. The king had to be executed for the murderer because of confining this murderer and a father had to be appointed. The state of things lasted for some months and then the jailer died. The authorities at Monte Carlo, when considering the appointment of his successor, came to the conclusion that the one prisoner, was costing the state a great deal of money. So a commission visited him and told him that in future he would be required to act as his own jailer. He grumbled a bit at this increase of sentence, but complied. His meals used to be sent down to him from one of the hotels in the town, but one day the scullion who brought him his dinner did not turn up to work and so the prisoner walked up to the hotel and took his meal there. After that he got into the habit of going up to the hotel for his meals. Then, after a stroll on the front, he used to return to his prison and shut himself in carefully bolting the door inside.

But again the authorities found that he was costing them too much, and so one day they called him up and told him that they were sick of seeing him about the place and that he must clear out. He emphatically refused to do anything of the kind. "You sentenced me to penal servitude for life," he argued, "and I expect to work out my sentence. I have no means of earning a livelihood since you created all the bother, and it is to you that I look for my sustenance."

To cut a long story short, the principality of Monaco was obliged to settle an annuity of £24 a year upon the convict before he would consent to accept his freedom and leave the country. As soon as this was arranged he took up his abode in a little cottage just over the Monaco border.

This is a true story, and the document fixing the man's pension, together with details about the payments may be seen in the Monaco archives.

The late Prince de Monaco was fond of telling this story in Parisian drawing rooms, and I remember aright, I heard it on the same occasion as did the late Guy de Maupassant.—London Mail.

Sydney Smith's Joke.

Sydney Smith was very happy in his country life, and his children caught his spirit of delight over common things. They loved animals and spent long hours in training them. One little best baby donkey, became under their tuition perhaps the most accomplished of his species and unconscious of any rise to a quinquain which now belongs to the fame of Sydney Smith. The donkey was a well educated chap. He would walk upstairs, follow the family in their rambles like a dog and when they entered his meadow run to meet them with ears down and tail wagging joyously.

One day, when Billy's head was covered with flowers and he was being led with a handkerchief for a collar, Mrs. Jeffrey unexpectedly arrived. He leaped in the sport and, to the children's delight, mounted Billy. When he was proceeding in triumph to his mother Smith and his wife, with their friends, returned from a walk in the forest in the festive scene. The great crowd moved, with extended hands, to greet his old friend in an imbecile which has become familiar to the world.

As Horace Flaccus said of Jacobus as a jester, "He was not as fat as a Bacon, but he was as little as a Jackass."

Costly Monotony in Dress.

There are all alike, and this monotony has led to unlimited extravagance. What has not been done to make the eternal pinafore frock more costly? New elaborations are introduced daily, each one more expensive than the last, but nobody is dissatisfied. It is still the old pinafore, on the whole, a little dearer, as the London Graphic says.

An Unfortunate Interruption.

"I was just going to propose to you last night," said a young man. "And what happened?" "The blow up, and then he couldn't think of anything else."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The sacred crocodiles of Egypt were buried with her proudest kings.

TOMORROW

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That's good—but how do you know there is going to be any tomorrow for you?

It is the Policy in force TODAY that is going to protect the widows and orphans of tomorrow.

Sometime—between two days—your tomorrows will all pass into yesterdays.

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AN IRISH SUPERSTITION.

Fishermen Don't Like to Meet Women When Starting For Work.

Superstitions as to its being most unlucky to meet a woman when setting out to fish or upon any journey by sea are not uncommon. From a headland on the Donegal coast the writer was one day anxiously watching a small smack beating across the bay against a heavy sea and stiff breeze which had suddenly sprung up. After a long and hard fight for it the little craft made the pier in safety, and up on condolences being offered the skipper on his recent hardships he said: "Sure, what better luck could I have? Didn't I meet a redheaded woman in Sligo this morning the moment I left my lodging to walk down to the boat?" In this case the color of the woman's hair and the fact of her being the first person met with after the man left his house seemed to be the determining factors in the day's luck. But in other places the objection to such an encounter embraces hair of all shades and any hour of the day, it being amply sufficient to bring the ill luck that any woman should pass by you just as you are walking down to the boat. Only a few weeks ago the writer visited a small fishing village on the Galway coast and just before getting on his car to return home was chatting to the landlady of the little inn. A strapping young fisherman who was walking down the road toward the harbor suddenly stopped, climbed over the fence and made his way to his boat across the fields. The writer observed to his hostess that the young fellow must have mistaken him for a process server with a writ for him. She laughed rather scornfully and said: "It's not you at all, son, he's afraid of, but me. He's just going fishing and would not pass me by if you gave him the fill of his bar of gold."—London Chronicle.

Napoleon.

There is no doubt Napoleon felt through the sheer dizziness of the height he had climbed to. "The Duke de Ragusa," says the Comtesse de Boigne, "once explained to me the nature of his connection with the emperor in a phrase which is more or less applicable to the whole nation. When Napoleon said 'All for France' I served with enthusiasm. When he said, 'France and I' I served with zeal. When he said, 'I and France' I served with obedience. When he said 'I' without France, I felt the necessity of parting from him."—T. P.'s London Weekly.

A Night on the Sleeper.

"Have you ever traveled in a sleeping car? I have Jasper." "Yes, sweet. But I didn't sleep any." "What was the trouble?" "You see, I'd just greased my boots, and I'd heard tell about them porters always taking people's shoes out and blacking 'em, so I had to keep awake all night so he wouldn't get a hold of mine. I'd know if he done it he'd want extra on account of the hard job. Blamed if I can see why the company allows them kind of things to go on."—Chicago Record Herald.

It Is Queer.

Little Boy—Isn't fathers queer? Auntie—In what way? Little Boy—When a boy does anything for his pa, he doesn't get anything, but if another man's boy does it he gets a nickel.

THE COW'S HORN.

Various Ways in Which It Is Made Useful by Man.

Have you any conception of how useful that horn is to us? Scientifically it is known as a combination of phosphoric acid, lime, gelatin and albumen, and, like all nature's products, the ingredients are in the right proportion to make the article useful to man as well as to the animal that bears it.

The lime makes the horn hard, but there is just enough lime to make it hard without making it brittle, and there is just enough gelatin to make the horn easy to cut and shape. The core of the horn is bone, and to get that out the horn is soaked in water for several weeks. When the core is taken out it is ground up and made into crumbles which are used for melting gold and silver in.

The outer end of the horn is hard and solid, and that is used for making knife handles and other things. The hollow part of the horn is soaked for half an hour or so in boiling water, when it becomes soft and may easily be split with a knife.

It is then spread out flat and put between iron plates. There was a time when these horn plates were made very thin by hand pressure and used in windows and lanterns as we now use glass. They may be made quite translucent.

When the horn is heated it may be molded into almost any desired form. That is the way knife handles, buttons and other articles are made.—Chicago News.

ENGLISH STORIES.

The Staking Way an Oxford Notable Won a Nickname.

Dean Stanley once went late to dinner with his collar flapping. His hostess ventured to ask him if he knew, "Oh, yes!" answered the dean. "Do you mind?" "Not at all," said the lady. "Then I don't mind, either. The button dropped off while I was dressing." And the dean continued his conversation.

Rev. W. H. Tuckwell is responsible for the history of how an Oxford notable in the thirties got his nickname "Presence of Mind" Smith. He went boating with a friend and returned alone and was asked what had become of his companion. He explained that his friend had fallen into the Thames. "And if I had not with great presence of mind hit him on the head with a boat hook the both of us would have been drowned."

The late Joseph Joachim was a great favorite in London and for more than sixty years rarely missed a season there. A certain nobleman told him that he was going to St. James' hall to hear him, and Joachim later asked him if he had found it tedious. "Not at all," seriously answered the titled personage. "I enjoyed myself immensely. I did not recognize you at first under your disguise as a nigger, but later I laughed all the more." The nobleman had strolled by mistake into a minstrel show instead of the large concert hall.

A New Calculation.

A French gentleman conceived the idea that he would only live a certain time, so he made a nice calculation of his fortune, which he so apportioned as to last just the same period as he guessed his life would extend to. Strangely enough, his calculations came correct to the letter, for he died precisely at the time he had previously reckoned. He had so far exhausted his fortune that after his death had been charged a solitary pair of slippers represented the entire property he left. His relatives buried him, and a representation of the slippers was carried on the tomb. Today in a church at Amsterdam his grave may be seen, the only inscription on the stone being two Flemish words "Effen Afs" (i.e. "Exactly").

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Bears the Signature of J. C. Fetter.

A Changed Bird.

An Englishman, who was a touch of a hunter, went out to find one day, and the first thing he saw to shoot at was a bird sitting securely on the top of a fence. He hazarded a shot at the bird and then walked over to pick it up. What happened to find there was a dead frog which he raised carefully at arm's length, looking at it with a puzzled air. Finally he remarked, "Well, begone, but ye was a fine looking bird before ye blew ther others off o' yerse!"—Judge's Library.

Stops carache in two minutes; toothache or pain of burn or scald in five minutes; hoarseness, one hour; muscleache, two hours; sore throat, twelve hours—Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, monarch over pain.



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